



## THE TABLE MOUNTAIN FUND ("TMF")

Trust No IT890/98 VAT No.: 4220232013

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**1 April 2025**



**- CALL FOR CONCEPT PROPOSALS TO THE TABLE MOUNTAIN FUND -**

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Table Mountain Fund is a capital conservation trust fund that was established in 1998 with funds from local and international sources. Founded by WWF-SA and launched by Sir Edmund Hillary, the fund has to-date invested approximately R110 million into over 350 conservation projects that protect and restore the Cape Floral Region.

The Table Mountain Fund's investment direction is informed by its 2025 - 2030 Conservation Strategy which is available on [www.thetablemountainfund.org.za](http://www.thetablemountainfund.org.za). This strategy identifies four priority programmes, namely: The Pride Programme; The Prosperity Programme; The Care Programme and The Fynbos Forever Programme. The Fund is now calling for concept proposals which align to The Fynbos Forever Programme. The total amount of funding available for all projects within this Programme over the full programme period is R6 700 000.

The Fynbos Forever Programme aims to ensure that:

- Priority ecosystems are safeguarded through formal and informal legal protection mechanisms; and
- Appropriate resource management interventions reduce threats and build resilience in the natural fynbos ecosystems.

Priority ecosystems are defined as Critical Biodiversity Areas, threatened ecosystems and important Water Source Areas.

### 2. WHO CAN APPLY?

Registered organisations in good standing and with a proven track record in Biodiversity Stewardship and/or protected area expansion within the Cape Floristic Region are encouraged to apply. Under exceptional circumstances and where well motivated for, organisations not yet registered as NPOs may be considered.



TRUSTEES:  
L A PLIT (CHAIR), E B MNISI, J SMITH  
A M AMIS, R R BUDDLE, J A SLINGSBY, N N WILSON



### **3. WHAT TYPES OF APPLICATIONS CAN BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING?**

- Projects must be based within the Cape Floristic Region and align to the Fynbos Forever programme;
- Preference will be given to projects which deliver on the primary objective of the Fynbos Forever Programme, i.e. Priority ecosystems (Critical Biodiversity Areas, important water source areas or threatened ecosystems) are safeguarded through formal and informal legal protection mechanisms;
- Projects must support the conservation sector in reaching Target #3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The ambitious target calls for 30% of terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine biodiversity to be protected by the year 2030; and
- Projects must be feasible in terms of having the required skills and expertise; be based on achievable time frames; have realistic financial resources available to the project and be cost effective.

Although not outright disqualifiers, the production of videos and films, the publication of books, student loans, bursaries, internships and other skills development options will only be considered when strongly motivated for and well aligned to The Fynbos Forever programme objectives.

### **4. FUNDING**

The Table Mountain Fund offers a maximum grant of R300 000 per annum, for a maximum period of four years, i.e. R1 200 000 in total per project.

### **5. THE CONCEPT PROPOSAL**

Concepts are envisaged to outline details of the project at a high level and may not be more than four A4 pages in length. The following headings must be addressed in concept proposals (please note that incomplete concept proposals or concept proposals exceeding the four pages may not be considered).

- 1: Project Name and Location;
- 2: Information about the entity (name, status, registration, etc.) and project team members (name, age, gender, role and experience), formal partners and collaborating organisations;
3. Project summary
- 4: Project Objectives (must include the safeguarding of priority ecosystems through formal and informal legal protection mechanisms; and may include appropriate resource interventions that reduce threats and build resilience in the natural fynbos ecosystems);
5. Project Outcomes (must indicate #hectares and #sites likely to be safeguarded and level of protection aimed for);
- 6: How will the project meet the Fynbos Forever Programme objectives?
7. How will the project address equity in terms of gender, cultural and ethnical diversity, and/ or disability?;
- 8: Budget (\*as per the format reflected below). Please also indicate co-funding secured. Budget should be VAT exclusive if VAT registered;
- 9: A summarised Implementation Schedule with timelines; and
- 10: Potential risks and responses. Responses should be aligned to interim indicators of success and allow for projects to be executed in a phased approach whereby if risks delay/ undermine the project, rapid recognition thereof and early termination should be considered.

Furthermore, in support of the written concept proposal, and as an optional extra only, applicants may submit a short AV of no longer than 3 minutes in length to further introduce the concept.

Please note that all TMF-funded projects will be expected to attend and present at Fynbos Forum at least once during the project term as well as a short project video (basic Power Point presentation will suffice). These requirements should be appropriately considered in the concept note.

**\* BUDGET FORMAT**

Line Item	Description
Staff costs	Permanent and temporary staff. Including only that portion of salary directly related to the project.
Third party fees	Consultant(s) and subcontractors. Include 3 <sup>rd</sup> party travel & subsistence. Exclude consultants contracted to undertake project evaluation.
Travel and Subsistence	Travel expenses including air fares, vehicle running expenses, vehicle hire, accommodation, etc. Exclude 3 <sup>rd</sup> party travel.
Capital Asset costs – to be strongly motivated for	All assets with a value of R1 000 or more and a useful life of more than one year. Items with a value less than R1 000 should be considered operating expenses.
Operating expenses	All remaining project expenses such as phone, postage, stationery, administration levies, consumables. Capital assets with a value less than R1 000.
Meetings / Education / Training	Include audio-visual material, training manuals, course fees, etc.
Project Promotion / Communication/ Printing / Publication	Include printing, design and distribution costs. Costs related to Funder / media visits.
Project Evaluation	Appointment of external and independent reviewers only.
SUBTOTAL	
<u>Management fee:</u>	Although supported, preference will be given to those projects adopting modest and realistic rates.
TOTAL	

**6. APPLYING FOR A GRANT**

Applications should be emailed to the Table Mountain Fund Project Coordinator, Carla Wood ([cwood@wwf.org.za](mailto:cwood@wwf.org.za)), 021 657 6663, before 09:00 on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Applications received after the closing date and time will not be accepted. Please ensure that you receive acknowledgement of receipt of your proposal.

**7. ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATION**

Applications will be assessed by the Project Review Panel on the basis of the above provided criteria. Given that the nature of the call is highly competitive, even projects which meet all stipulated criteria may not be awarded funding. Furthermore, TMF is hoping to contract at least one project based within the Eastern Cape portion of the Cape Floristic Region.

Short-listed applicants will be invited to develop their concepts into full applications for further consideration based upon comments received from the Project Review Panel (which may also ask for the independent review of any application). All applicants, whether successful or not in their application, will be provided with feedback by the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025. The Table Mountain Fund reserves the right to not allocate the full R 6 700 000 to The Fynbos Forever Programme through this call.